

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 1 with the following amended paragraph:

The present invention is related to applications entitled “Method and Apparatus for Enhancing Instant Messaging Systems”, serial no. 10/427,137, Attorney Docket No. AUS920030104US1, filed on April 10, 2003; “Method and Interface for Multi-Threaded Conversations in Instant Messaging”, serial no. [[_____]] 10/752,917, Attorney Docket No. AUS920030829US1, filed on [[_____]] January 7, 2004; “Instant Messaging Priority Filtering Based on Content and Hierarchical Schemes”, serial no. [[_____]] 10/752,919, Attorney Docket No. AUS920031010US1, filed on [[_____]] January 7, 2004. The above related applications are assigned to the same assignee, and incorporated herein by reference.